

STORY WELL TOLD.

Luetgert's Partner Testifies in Sausage Maker's Behalf.

THE PRESENCE OF THE POTASH

In the Factory Plausibly Accounted for, but the Prosecution Claim That the Tale Was Cooked, and That at the Proper Time They Will Introduce Evidence That Will Throw Light on the Matter—The Crush of People Seeking Admission to the Court Room Something Fearful—The Case Exciting Intense Interest.

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—The leading event of the day in the trial of A. L. Luetgert was the evidence of William Charles Luetgert's business partner. He explained why, as he claimed, the caustic potash in which the body of Mrs. Louise Luetgert is alleged by the prosecution to have been dissolved, was bought. According to Charles' story, the potash was purchased as the principal ingredient of a quantity of soft soap to be used in cleaning up the big factory preparatory to its sale to an English syndicate. The witness said he suggested this method of putting the factory in shape himself and that Luetgert, acting upon the suggestion, ordered a barrel of caustic potash, weighing three hundred and seventy-five pounds, sent to the factory in March last. This was about the time the prosecution claims the negotiations were pending between Luetgert and Davey, the mysterious Englishman, who is said to have represented the syndicate and who borrowed something like \$25,000 from Luetgert.

Charles also offered an explanation of the apparently barricaded door to the basement stairway by telling about a chase for rats in which a small dog was an active participant. He said that the factory had been infected by rats for some time and that an effort had been made to get rid of them. The evening of April 30, he and Luetgert, with others in the basement, with a terrier which belonged to the witness, got after a rat. Charles, Luetgert and others moved boxes and other obstacles to aid the dog in his chase for the rat, and the boxes, etc., were hurled in a pile against the door. The barricade of the door was unintentional, he said. It just happened that the articles were thrown there without thought of the door at all.

TO MAKE SOAP.

Charles said besides the caustic potash two or three barrels of tallow, a quantity of grease and some chipped bone which was to be used in making the soft soap, was delivered at the factory.

He said that they had Odorofsky and Levendowsky, two laborers employed in the factory, place some of the stuff in the middle vat. He also saw Frank Blalk in the factory at the time. The caustic potash was put in the vat and Luetgert said he would see to turning on the steam and boiling the stuff. Charles said he met Luetgert in a saloon opposite the factory on the evening of the night Mrs. Luetgert disappeared, and Luetgert said he was going over to the factory and turn on the steam. At 9 o'clock the same night, Charles said he went to the basement of the factory and found Luetgert there and the steam turned on. The mixture boiled over once or twice and splashed upon the floor, he said. The following day he visited the factory basement and saw the mixture in the vat. The tallow was in one portion of the vat and the rest of the stuff collected in the other part of the vat by itself. Luetgert again turned on steam in the mixture, the witness said.

On cross-examination, by State's Attorney Deenen, Charles denied he had "doctored" books of the concern so as to show a yearly profit of \$30,000. This line of cross-examination was objected to by the defense, but the court permitted it for the time, the result being a complete denial by Charles. He said that it was he who introduced Promoter Davey to Luetgert, but he said he was deceived by the man, as well as Luetgert.

Frank Bittler told of seeing Mrs. Luetgert wring her hands and weep upon one occasion. It was during the latter part of April, and the witness declared that Mrs. Luetgert said the business was broken up, everything was gone, and that she was going away also. Later, the witness said Mrs. Luetgert promised to attend the wedding of his daughter in June, and make the prospective bride a present.

At the close of the afternoon session of court, ex-Judge Vincent and Attorney Phalen were much pleased over the evidence of witness Charles. "He told a pretty fair story," acknowledged Assistant State's Attorney McEwen at the close of the trial. "It was one of those stories upon which there is nothing left to cross-examine. First he sought the opportunity. He says he was in the basement of the factory that night and that Luetgert began to make soap. He and Luetgert are the only ones who really know the real object for which that caustic potash was bought. They are not going to tell any other story than the one told by Charles. So what is the use to cross-examine at length on that point. But we have some other evidence on this point that will change the complexion of Charles' evidence when it is submitted."

MRS. LUETGERT WAS DEPRESSED.

Charles Boehnke, who had worked for Luetgert for sixteen years, testified that on April 23, he had a brief conversation with Mrs. Luetgert and she seemed to be much depressed, and remarked that "things were going bad in the house." She said, according to the witness, that she would go to the country and go to work as a servant.

"We are about ruined and I will go to the country and work out; I cannot stay here," the witness said were the words of the apparently distressed woman. "I told her that times were as hard in the country as they were in the city," said Boehnke, "and advised her not to go."

When Mrs. Augusta Koch, a neighbor of the Luetgerts, who knew Mrs. Luetgert well, was called to the witness stand, Juror William Harter was called upon to act as interpreter. This was the second time since the trial began that Juror Harter had been similarly called upon, despite the fact of the discovery that he was indicted ten years ago in connection with the Cook county commissioners' boodle scandal. State's Attorney Deenen has the utmost faith in Juror Harter's honesty and to-day gave out for publication a letter of ex-State's Attorney Longnecker, concerning the indictment of Harter. Ex-State's

Attorney Longnecker declared that Harter should never have been indicted. After a thorough investigation of the case, he says, he entered a nolle prosequi of the case and Harter was never arraigned for trial.

Mrs. Koch said she had known Mrs. Luetgert for eleven years and had lived near her most of this time. She saw and talked with Mrs. Luetgert the last week in April. Mrs. Luetgert was depressed and talked about going away. She told the witness, according to the statement of the latter, that Luetgert had been swindled by a man who had promised to pay him a big sum for an interest in the sausage factory. Luetgert had let the men have a large sum of money and the man had run away. This evidence was in support of the statement of ex-Judge Vincent at the opening of the trial to the effect that a promoter had swindled Luetgert out of \$25,000 and that this was the beginning of the troubles of the sausage maker. Other witnesses testified along this line later in the day.

The crush around the criminal court building to-day was something fearful. A number of extra policemen had been placed on duty to assist the court bailiffs in keeping back the throng that clamored for admission and they had their hands full. It was only with the greatest difficulty that those having business in the court room could gain admission, and many people who had tickets entitling them to enter the court room, were compelled to turn away because of their inability to force their way through the crowd. This morning the pressure on the State's Attorney for tickets of admission was so great that he and his assistant, Mr. McEwen, were compelled to hide in the private office of the State's Attorney in order to transact their work prior to the opening of court.

No criminal trial that has been held in Cook county, has excited as much interest as the present case. The anarchist case was the record breaker until the trial of the sausage maker began, but it is in the second place now. One of the spectators at the trial to-day was an Equimaux from Alaska, whose home is not far from the Klondike region. He is in Chicago exhibiting Klondike dogs and expressed a strong desire to see the "sausage man who killed his wife." The trial will probably last a month.

THE QUEER VERDICT

Of the Coroner's Jury on the Victims of Hazleton Shootings.

HAZLETON, Pa., Sept. 27.—The coroner's jury which investigated the death of the striking miners at Lattimer, met in deputy coroner Gorman's office this evening and after an hour's deliberation, rendered the following verdict:

"That from the circumstances of the case and the evidence offered, the said Clement Placock and others came to their deaths by gunshot wounds on September 19, 1897, at the hands of Sheriff James Martin, and his deputies, and in this, we, the jury, do all agree and we, Philip J. Boyle, Thomas T. Thomas, Barton Freas and Peter McKernan, of this jury, do further say that the said Clement Placock and others were marching peacefully and unarmed on the public highway, that they were intercepted by the said Sheriff Martin and his deputies and mercilessly shot to death and we do further find that the killing was unnecessary and could have been avoided without serious injury to either person or property, and we find finally, that the killing was wanton, and unjustifiable, but in this, we, George Maue and F. J. McNeal, of this jury, do not concur, and we, the jury, do further say that there was such strong suspicion of unlawful violence at the hands of person or persons unknown to this jury as to make this inquest necessary."

MINING SITUATION

In the Hazleton Field—All Troops to Be Withdrawn During the Week.

HAZLETON, Pa., Sept. 27.—The miners of McAdoo and vicinity will take action on the report of the arbitration committee to-morrow and the general opinion is that the report will be satisfactory, both the company and the men having agreed to submit and abide by arbitration. A meeting of miners will be held to-night at Milneville and another at Jeddo, where branches of the United Mine Workers were organized by John Fahey.

The Fourth regiment will be withdrawn to-morrow and the Eighth and the City troop, of Philadelphia, on Wednesday. It is probable that the Ninth and the Governor's troops will break camp on Thursday, and, unless something unforeseen occurs in the meantime, the entire staff will leave at the same time. No regiment will remain here, the commanding officers being confident that no further trouble is to be feared. Gen. Gobin was about to-day, but still suffers from the fall sustained yesterday. The general has issued an order complimenting the men for their excellent demeanor and efficiency.

Singular Fatal Accident.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

FAYETTEVILLE, W. Va., Sept. 27.—Mr. George Bradford, who carries mail between the railroad station and Fayetteville, received injuries to-night from which he will die. Some horns stung his horse and it started to run. Mr. Bradford was thrown out of the sulky and in attempting to climb in again his foot caught in the wheel. His leg was wound around the axle two times breaking it so badly that amputation will be necessary. He received other bad injuries all over his body. He is upwards of 60 years of age.

Twenty-seven Cars Demolished.

HUNTINGDON, Pa., Sept. 27.—A rear end collision of eastbound freight trains on the Pennsylvania railroad, five miles west of here, caused the destruction of twenty-seven cars and a larger quantity of general merchandise. The four tracks were torn up for a considerable distance, and traffic on the middle division was temporarily suspended. The entire force of the wrecking crew was called out. The westbound express and passengers are lying here, awaiting clear tracks. Many of the cars were telescoped, while others, with their contents, were thrown down the embankment into the Juniata river.

Held by Swiss Bandits.

TOLEDO, O., Sept. 27.—Harry Toller-ton, aged twenty years, son of Attorney B. W. Toller-ton, and Professor Daniel J. Holmes, of Mendville, Pa., college, have been traveling in southern Europe since June, but no one knows where they are, and circumstances indicate that both are held by Swiss bandits, who are demanding a ransom for their release.

Will Pay the Interest.

BALTIMORE, Md., Sept. 27.—The receivers of the Baltimore & Ohio railway have arranged to pay the interest on the bonds of the Baltimore & Ohio and Chicago division of the system upon which default was made on June 1, and say they are in a fair way to do the same with the bonds of the Pittsburgh & Connellsville branch, on which default was made on July 1.

BLOODY RIOTING.

Between Factions of Polanders at Gerardsville, Penna.

NINE ARE FATALLY INJURED.

Thirty-Six Are Known to Have Been Wounded, and Fifty More Are Being Secreted by Their Friends, Who Fear They Will Be Sent to Jail—The Battle the Outcome of a Quarrel Over the Hazleton Troubles—Guns, Revolvers, Knives, Axes and Clubs Used in the Affray.

GERARDSVILLE, Pa., Sept. 27.—At least nine men received fatal injuries and possibly two score were more or less seriously wounded in a bloody riot here late last night and early this morning. The battle was the outcome of a quarrel over the Hazleton troubles. Thirty-six men are known to have been wounded and about fifty more are being secreted by their friends, who fear that they will be sent to jail. Twelve of the ringleaders were brought before Justice Elias Kissinger and ten before Justice H. B. Johnson. All were charged with assault with intent to kill, house breaking and rioting, and were held in heavy bail for court. Many more warrants have been issued but have not been served as yet.

Dr. Charles Schlesman attended to twenty-two of the wounded, nine of whom he says will die. Dr. Wm. Monaghan and James Donaghue attended to fourteen others and how many the other physicians cared for is not known. Three other men have been reported dead, but this cannot be verified as yet on account of the uncommunicative nature of the participants.

The story of the riot is as follows: Several hundred Polanders board at William Culacabage's hotel, on Second street. Joseph Cavendish is proprietor of a hotel at the east end of town, where several hundred more Polanders make their headquarters. Bad blood has existed between them for a long time, and the recent strike troubles at Hazleton embittered them still more. Last night matters came to a crisis. Culacabage, it is charged, and his followers to the number of several hundred, arming themselves with guns, revolvers, knives, axes and clubs, marched to Cavendish's hotel, where several hundred of their enemies were celebrating a party day.

The Cavendish men ascertained that their foes were marching on them, and arming themselves hurriedly, awaited their arrival. After a demonstrative march the Culacabage contingent arrived and immediately stormed the saloon. Then a bloody battle ensued. The men fought like demons, the shooting was fast and furious—axes, knives, clubs and other weapons were used with deadly effect. The battle lasted almost an hour, when the Culacabage gang was routed, leaving their wounded behind.

Everything in the house was smashed and the floors were strewn with wounded men. The walls were bespattered with blood and shreds of human flesh.

After the rioters had returned to their headquarters, the Cavendish gang armed themselves to the teeth and marched to their enemies' rendezvous, where a battle still bloodier than the first ensued. The police force and the constables of the surrounding region were called to the scene, but were unable to cope with rioting horde, who continued hostilities until morning.

The town people did not sleep a wink all night, and while they watched the progress of the fight during the night, they made no attempt to interfere.

The place was in an uproar, but all is quiet now, and no more trouble is anticipated. It is thought that after the excitement subsides most of the guilty parties will be arrested. The residences of many citizens were damaged, and several outsiders were wounded.

ENGLAND DID NOT WITHDRAW

From Seal Conference—Merely Objected to Russia and Japan.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—As announcement was made this afternoon confirming the dispatches of The Associated Press on Saturday last the Marquis of Salisbury has not withdrawn from the Bering Sea conference, but has simply objected to the presence of Russia and Japan. Negotiations on the subject are proceeding. Great Britain is willing to take part in the conference and is endeavoring to secure the acquiescence of Canada.

The United States ambassador, Colonel John Hay, and the British ambassador to the United States, Sir Julian Pauncefote, visited the foreign office this afternoon.

The whole hitch seems to be due to the failure of the Marquis of Salisbury to respond to Colonel Hay's note of July 29, acknowledging the Marquis of Salisbury's agreement to a "meeting of experts" and in which Colonel Hay stated that the President expected Russian and Japanese representatives would be present at the conference. Exception being taken to this, Colonel Hay concluded that the matter was settled, until Wednesday last, when an objection was received from the British side, it being pointed out that the Marquis of Salisbury never contemplated taking part in a conference at which Russia and Japan were represented, having always contended, as shown in his dispatch of May 9, that they had no locus standi.

It is also pointed out that the Marquis of Salisbury's letter of July 29 distinctly says that Great Britain had agreed to a meeting of British, Canadian, American experts.

The Japanese minister here said to a representative of the Associated Press to-day: "While no formal communications have passed between Japan and England I have discussed the arrangements for a conference with the foreign office officials."

Ex-Secretary Robinson Dead.

TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 27.—Ex-Secretary of the Navy George M. Robinson, died to-day at his home in this city. Mr. Robinson was sixty-nine years of age and had been in failing health for several months. He was born in Belvidere, N. J., in 1828.

PIEDMONT TAKES ACTION

On the Cumberland Meeting Which Protested Against the Drainage from the Pulp and Paper Mills—Some Strong Resolutions Adopted.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

PIEDMONT, W. Va., Sept. 27.—Thursday night last a few of the citizens of Cumberland, Md., twenty-eight miles east of this place, held a mass meeting, and by speeches and resolutions tried to influence the actions of the courts before which an application for an injunction is pending to stop the Piedmont Pulp and Paper Company from allowing the drainage from their pulp mill to run into the Potomac river. About 110 citizens from this community attended the meeting, but were severely "sat down upon," which resulted in the citizens and taxpayers of the triple town of the Potomac, Piedmont, Westport and Luke, holding a monster mass meeting in the Piedmont Opera House to-night, to which meeting the citizens of Cumberland had been invited.

Prof. Oliver H. Bruce, principal of the Westport graded school, presided, with Mayor Ed. J. Napier, of Westport, and Mayor J. P. Williams, of Piedmont, and twenty-eight other prominent citizens as vice presidents. John M. Stanley, of the Herald, and George T. Goshorn, of the Independent, were made secretaries, with four assistants. The chairman named Hon. C. F. Hahn, Rev. C. F. Moore and Prof. W. M. Fouik, committee on resolutions. The committee reported a preamble reciting the action of the Cumberland meeting, and the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, By the citizens and taxpayers of Piedmont, Westport and Luke, in mass meeting assembled,

1. That, since its is not true and cannot be established that the waters of the Potomac, independent of the drainage from the pulp mills, are or can be rendered unfit for domestic uses, we deprecate the selfish and misguided efforts of certain citizens of our sister city of Cumberland in agitating this issue, which inasmuch, even in the resolutions before mentioned, a possible recourse to another water supply is intimated.

2. That we condemn such sentiments, expressed by the speakers on the occasion, and we mentioned as they were unfriendly to the interests of this locality.

3. That we condemn the ex parte and inadequate methods taken in the attempts to prove the special culpability of the pulp mill.

4. That we condemn the implication that the courts of justice are capable of being influenced in the exercise of their judicial functions by the expressions of a public meeting.

5. That especially do we condemn as untrue, unjust and inequitable the absurd claim of pollution of Cumberland's water supply by the Piedmont Pulp and Paper Company, and on the contrary, say its chief and most serious contamination is caused by the sewerage of Cumberland itself; as witness the report on record with the report of the grand jury of the January term, 1896, of the circuit court of Allegany county.

6. That we invite the fullest competent investigation of any and all possible sources of pollution of the waters of the Potomac, and from the citizens of Cumberland the same fair treatment as we are willing to accord them.

8. That we protest against any and all attempts to place the interests of this community in a false light before the world, and

8. That we remain confident in steadfast loyalty to the twin towns.

Spirited speeches were made by Attorney Taylor Morrison and Hon. C. F. Hahn. The house was packed, many spectators being required to stand.

NARROW ESCAPE

From Being Lynched—Accused of Killing an Officer—Attorney General Outwits Mob.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WELCH, W. Va., Sept. 27.—At Keystone, near here, Tom Major fought a woman. A warrant was issued for his arrest and placed in the hands of Special Officer Newt. Hines, who went up the railroad in search of the man. When he was just above town, some one shot and killed him. Major was arrested and lodged in jail at Keystone. Yesterday a large mob gathered with the intention of lynching him.

Sheriff Whyte and deputies, Attorney General Edgar P. Rucker, and Prosecuting Attorney Herndon went to the scene and succeeded in getting the prisoner from the jail to a freight engine and brought him here and lodged him in jail, just in time to prevent the mob from accomplishing its purpose. Excitement is running high and this affair nearly caused a race riot.

Recent Pensions.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Pension certificates have been issued to West Virginia applicants as follows:

Original—John Moore, Woodland; William R. Holderby, Huntington; John W. Lawrence, Charleston; John A. Snyder, Stout's Mills; Morgan Wade, Worley; Daniel McCollum, Philoah.

Restoration and increase—George W. Norton, Big Bend.

Renewal—Reese A. Hilum, Vista.

Increase—William Kitchen, Jr., Huntington.

Widows and release—To minors of Frederick A. Wells, Monongahela; Aline J. Childers, Vandalia; Sarah Pell, Independence; Sophronia A. Walker, Advent.

Other certificates issued are: John Pearce, Steubenville, O.; John W. Fry, Burgettstown, Washington county, Pa., original pensions.

Widely and Popularly Known.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MARTINSBURG, W. Va., Sept. 27.—A. B. Ingersoll died to-day of Bright's disease and erysipelas, in his 60th year. He was born in Lynn, Mass., and had lived successively at Oberlin, Ohio, Knoxville, Tenn., and Greenville, Ohio, coming here from the latter place two years ago. He was a Mason and an active member of the Presbyterian church. He was southern general representative of the Studebaker wagon manufacturing company, South Bend, Ind. He had traveled extensively and was widely and popularly known. He leaves a wife and three children. His children are Miss Eleanor Ingersoll, E. P. Ingersoll, Cincinnati, and F. B. Ingersoll, Seattle, Wash.

Incendiaries Burn a Church.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Sept. 27.—On Saturday night last the Baptist church on Raceon creek, twenty miles south of this city, was burned to the ground. There had been some trouble over the title to the property, and it is suspected that the burning was the work of an incendiary. This is the second church burned in that neighborhood within the past four months.

AWFUL TRAGEDY.

An Iowa Woman and Her Six Children Slaughtered

AND BLOODY WORK COMPLETED

By the Fiendish or Demented Husband and Father by Sending a Bullet Into His Own Head—No Motive for the Tragedy Has Been Disclosed—The Wife and Mother Was the First Victim, and Then the Murderer Continued His Bloodthirsty Work by Killing His Children While They Slept—The Family Seemed to Live Happily Together.

CARROLL, Iowa, Sept. 27.—The slaughter of a mother and her six children occurred at the home of John Boecker, a farmer living eight miles northwest of here last night. Afterward the fiendish or demented husband and father, at whose hands they died, completed his bloody work by sending a bullet into his own head, inflicting a fatal wound. The family were prosperous Germans and as far as is known lived happily. No motive for the tragedy has been disclosed. Boecker's victims are his wife and these children: Caroline, aged fourteen; Christine, aged nine; Henry, aged eight; Lizzie, aged six; John, aged three and an infant. All are dead but Henry, and the latter cannot recover from his wounds.

Boecker had an engagement to help a neighbor thresh this morning and on his not putting in an appearance, his brother Henry, who lives about twenty rods away, went about 9 o'clock to see why he did not come. The doors of the Boecker house were locked and there were no signs of life about. Henry tried to get in the house but met no response, and finally he kicked in the door and came upon a horrible scene. Boecker, with his wife and baby slept in a back room, and the three corpses lay on one bed. The wife had been shot in the neck with a shot gun, which stood in the corner, the baby had been shot and its head crushed with the butt of a revolver. The man, still breathing, had a bullet hole high up on the forehead, and by his side was a Smith & Wesson six shooter, with two chambers empty.

The Boeckers' home is a story and half frame house, and upstairs Henry and Lizzie lay on a bed with bullet holes in the forehead, the latter dead, the boy still alive. In the opposite corner of the same room, Caroline, Christine and John were dead, each with a bullet hole in the forehead, though Caroline had two.

Late this afternoon the bodies were still untouched, the sheriff and coroner being occupied in arranging for the inquest and other preliminaries. The inquiry will be pushed to-morrow by the coroner's jury.

It is undoubtedly a case of murder and suicide. The indications are that Boecker first dispatched his wife with the shot gun, then shot her in the neck, then used the revolver on the baby, first shooting it and then knocking out its brains with the butt. Boecker then went upstairs where the five children were sleeping and killed them. He must have used a light for his aim was effective, each victim being shot in the forehead. All but two children met with instant death, for the blood clots were under their heads and two lay as calmly reposed as if in sleep. All except Henry, who is not yet dead, were attired in night robes. Boecker had reloaded his weapon while upstairs and evidently sent the second bullet into the oldest girl's brain just before leaving the room. Going down stairs he stretched himself beside the corpse of his wife and shot himself. His right hand was burnt by the powder, showing the rapid use of the revolver. The weapon he had borrowed from his brother Henry last Thursday, remarking that he wanted it to kill rats in the cellar. It is now recalled that Boecker had since then practiced target shooting with it.

Boecker was thirty-four years old and for over twenty years lived in the same neighborhood, in fact on the same farm. He was married eleven years ago, and after living a year with his parents, moved to the scene of last night's tragedy, which is almost within hailing distance of the old home. He has been regarded as a prosperous farmer and only recently bought a 200-acre farm a few miles from the old homestead. He attended Catholic services at Breda yesterday with his wife and some of the children. Later in the day he visited a neighbor, who says that when he left the Boeckers' home in the evening, they were seemingly a happy family and not a premonition of the awful tragedy enacted a few hours later was given by Boecker or any one of the household. Members of his father's family say he had no family troubles, his financial affairs were in good shape and they can assign no motive for the terrible crime.

On the other hand it is said that John had disagreed with the old folks and Henry over the occupancy of the farm on which John lived, and the assigned by some as the cause of the trouble which culminated in murder and suicide. The family are Germans and highly respected citizens.

NO ULTIMATUM

Was Presented to Spain—Good Offices Only Were Offered.

MADRID, Sept. 27.—The United States minister, General Stewart L. Woodford, paid a visit of courtesy this morning to the Spanish premier, General Azcarra.

Several of the newspapers of this city allege that General Woodford has said, in interviews with their representatives that negotiations between the United States and Spain on the subject of Cuba have not begun and that he has only had a preliminary chat with the Spanish minister for foreign affairs. The general is quoted as having added that he found the Duke of Tetuan to be a most amiable and able man and that no ultimatum to Spain was delivered, as that country would not put up with it and because the intention of the United States was only to offer its good offices in the most friendly terms.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 27.—The administration has had under consideration for some time the propriety of making public the text of the letter presented to the Duke of Tetuan, the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, by Minister Woodford, in which was outlined this government's view with reference to the Cuban situation.

It was proposed to do this because of the uncorroborated and sensational reports that had been circulated concerning Minister Woodford's representations to the Spanish authorities, but it, however, has been deemed advisable by the President to withhold the letter from the public for the present. It is supposed that Mr. McKinley may have been animated in this decision by the wishes of the Spanish government.

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NATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE.

Eugene V. Debs Addresses the Meeting on the Subject of Strikes.

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—About two hundred representatives of various labor organizations were present in Orpheus hall in the Schiller building to-day to attend the National Labor conference called by the St. Louis convention.

Many organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor were represented, but these delegates said they were not there in an official capacity. President E. V. Debs, of the Social Democracy, was called to the platform and explained the objects of the conference. He appealed to the representatives of all labor organizations to work together toward the amelioration of the present condition of laboring classes. "Strikes don't pay," said Mr. Debs. "All strikes are lost. They are useless. They are caused by the employing classes. When capitalists get ready for a strike they provoke them, knowing well their cause is won before the conflict is begun. The various labor unions of this country have all they can do to take care of their own men. Never was this better exemplified than in the recent miners' strike.

"Never in my experience have I seen a strike which had the sympathy of the public and even of part of the employing class, as that one did, and yet when an appeal was made for financial aid less than seven cents per striking miner was received."

E. M. Bannister, of St. Louis, was elected chairman of the convention and the delegates handed in their credentials.

There was much bitter criticism of the action of President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, in advising members not to attend the meeting.

YELLOW FEVER.

Warmer Weather Has the Effect of Increasing Number of Cases.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 27.—Warmer weather in the past two or three days has had the effect of increasing to some extent the number of new cases of the prevailing type of yellow fever, but it has equally had the effect of sending down the death rate. There were 23 cases on Saturday, seventeen yesterday and up to half past 6 o'clock to-day twenty-one cases. But there were only two deaths on Saturday, none on Sunday and two to-day. Present experience therefore, proves that warm weather adds to the number of cases, but reduces the mortality, while cold weather diminishes the number of cases and enlarges the death rate.

Physicians and the authorities to-night generally agree that the situation is steadily improving. They believe that the chances are growing more remote every day of an epidemic and that there is little likelihood that the disease will assume before cold weather, a much more virulent form than at present.

Situation at Mobile.